



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
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WASHINGTON, DC 20350-2000

OPNAVINST 5420.70H
N09P
4 Jun 2021

OPNAV INSTRUCTION 5420.70H

From: Chief of Naval Operations

Subj: MISSION, FUNCTIONS AND TASKS OF THE BOARD OF INSPECTION
AND SURVEY

Ref: (a) 10 U.S.C.
(b) SECNAVINST 5040.3B
(c) OPNAVINST 4730.5R
(d) OPNAVINST 4770.5J
(e) OPNAVINST 4700.7M
(f) OPNAVINST 4700.8K
(g) OPNAVINST 4780.6F
(h) OPNAVINST 5430.48E
(i) OPNAVINST 9080.4D
(j) COMUSFLTFORCOMINST 5420.70

Encl: (1) Functions and Tasks of the Board of Inspection and Survey

1. Purpose.

a. To provide the mission, functions and tasks of the Board of Inspection and Survey (INSURV).

b. This revision addresses John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019, the implications for INSURV Transformation and includes the addition of inspections of boats and craft. This revision should be reviewed in its entirety.

2. Cancellation. OPNAVINST 5420.70G.

3. Scope and applicability. This instruction applies to INSURV.

4. Authority for Trials, Material Inspections and Surveys. Reference (a) prescribes that the Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) designate a board of naval officers to, with minimal notice provided to the crew, examine naval vessels at least once every 3 years, if practicable and recommend to SECNAV which vessels, if any, should be stricken from the Naval Vessel Register. References (b) through (j) delineate the functions and tasks of INSURV.

5. Mission. INSURV conducts acceptance trials of vessels and service craft for determining the quality of construction, compliance with specifications and Navy requirements, to determine if

builder responsible equipment is operating satisfactorily during the guarantee period following acceptance and to make recommendations upon their acceptance by the Navy.

a. They conduct material inspections with minimal notice provided to the crew of all naval vessels at least once every 3 years, if practicable, for the purpose of determining and reporting upon a vessel's fitness for further service and material conditions which limit its ability to carry out assigned missions. The Board conducts surveys, when directed by the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO), for the purpose of determining and documenting the material condition of the vessel in conjunction with their inactivation. They periodically ascertain and report the material condition and performance capabilities or limitations, the status of fleet operational safety and health and on the status of fleet environmental protection program compliance.

b. In addition, the Board compiles statistical information regarding recurring or significant acquisition or maintenance deficiencies for ships, craft and boats, reviews specifications for new vessel designs, performs thorough analysis of compiled information and provides timely, candid and accurate findings, along with recommended actions when applicable, to SECNAV, CNO, Navy Inspector General (NAVINSGEN), Fleet Commanders, Systems Commands (SYSCOM) and other higher authorities.

6. Status and Command Relationships.

a. The Board is an independent activity, established under Title 10, with a sea component in an active operating status under direction of a President with the status of Commander. The President, Board of Inspection and Survey (PRESINSURV) has reporting requirements to Congress, SECNAV, NAVINSGEN, the CNO, administratively to Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command and is subject to the regional coordination authority of Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic.

b. PRESINSURV may be assisted by other officers, subordinate or temporary boards. Subordinate Boards are formal in nature with reporting requirements to PRESINSURV and are established in writing via Memorandum of Understanding or Memorandum of Agreement between PRESINSURV and the supporting commander. Temporary boards will be convened upon the request of PRESINSURV and will be composed of personnel assigned on temporary additional duty basis by their parent command. PRESINSURV is authorized direct liaison with these boards and their parent commands in carrying out the functions assigned to these boards.

7. Assignments. The President and Deputy, INSURV, are assigned additional duties as principal advisor to the CNO regarding all U.S. Navy material inspections and surveys, as well as other program and resource issues required for the effective performance of the assigned mission and functions of INSURV.

8. Organization. INSURV must consist of a flag officer as president and other officers, senior enlisted, civilians and contractors as necessary, to assist in carrying out the duties of the Board prescribed by law, Navy regulations or as instructed by SECNAV or CNO.


9. Action. PRESINSURV must carry out the functions and tasks prescribed in enclosure (1) and advise CNO when changes to this instruction are considered necessary.

10. Records Management.

a. Records created as a result of this instruction, regardless of format or media, must be maintained and dispositioned per the records disposition schedules located on the Department of the Navy (DON) Assistant for Administration, Directives and Records Management Division portal page at <https://portal.secnave.navy.mil/orgs/DUSNM/DONAA/DRM/Records-and-Information-Management/Approved%20Record%20Schedules/Forms/AllItems.aspx>.

b. For questions concerning the management of records related to this instruction or the records disposition schedules, please contact the local records manager or the OPNAV Records Management Program (DNS-16).

11. Review and Effective Date. Per OPNAVINST 5215.17A, CNO N09P will review this instruction annually on the anniversary of its effective date to ensure applicability, currency and consistency with Federal, DoD, SECNAV and Navy policy and statutory authority using OPNAV 5215/40 Review of Instruction. This instruction will automatically expire 5 years after effective date unless reissued or canceled prior to the 5-year anniversary date or an extension has been granted.


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Releasability and distribution:

This instruction is cleared for public release and is available electronically only via DON Issuances Web site, <https://www.secnave.navy.mil/doni/default.aspx>.

FUNCTIONS AND TASKS OF THE BOARD OF INSPECTION AND SURVEY

1. Functions.

a. Per reference (a), conducts material inspections with minimal notice provided to the crew of all naval vessels, “at least once every 3 years, if practicable,” for the purpose of determining and reporting upon a vessel’s fitness for further service and material conditions which limit its ability to carry out assigned missions or reach its expected service life. Minimal notice does not apply to craft and boats.

b. Conducts material inspections of boats and craft for the purpose of determining and reporting upon a vessel’s fitness for further service and material conditions which limit its ability to carry out assigned missions or reach its expected service life.

c. Periodically ascertains and reports on the material condition and performance capabilities or limitations of Navy vessels.

d. Conducts independent, third party maintenance process audits in order to validate fleet material condition metrics. This requires analysis of available Navy material condition data.

e. Compiles statistical information regarding recurring or significant acquisition or maintenance deficiencies for vessels and craft. This statistical information is validated, analyzed and processed in order to produce both root cause explanations for aforementioned deficiencies, as well as material condition and readiness trends.

f. Performs in-depth assessments, as required, in response to significant material condition or material maintenance anomalies discovered during the course of inspections or resulting from analysis of data stemming from inspections.

g. Reports findings to higher authority including recommendations for appropriate corrective action. This may include other agencies, such as the General Accounting Office of the Department of Defense IG, when requested.

h. Provides an annual report for submission to congressional defense committees not later than 1 March each year addressing subparagraphs 1h(1) through 1h(4):

(1) An overall narrative summary of the material readiness of Navy Ships as compared to established material requirements standards.

(2) The overall number and types of vessels inspected during the preceding fiscal year.

(3) For in-service vessels, material readiness trends by inspected functional areas as compared to the previous five years.

(4) Each report under this subsection must be submitted in an unclassified form that is releasable to the public without further redaction.

i. Arranges for the proper mix of INSURV inspectors and subject matter expert technical inspectors, if required, to carry out any prescribed inspection mission.

j. Administers funds and personnel assigned.

k. Performs others functions as may be assigned by higher authority.

2. Specified Tasks.

a. Prescribes the procedure for the conduct of trials, material inspections and surveys of vessels consistent with law, regulations and the terms of contracts.

b. Arranges for the conduct of vessel trials, material inspections and surveys on active ships by any board under its jurisdiction. Makes semi-annual reports to SECNAV and CNO on vessels that are unable to adhere to prescribed inspection periodicity requirements.

c. Conducts trials of ships and combatant and service craft to determine whether or not the vessel has been constructed or converted following the contract specifications and meets approved characteristics. The Board must report all material, performance and design deficiencies found to exist during a trial and recommend design changes or alterations, which it believes are essential for safe and satisfactory mission accomplishment, clearly differentiated from deficiencies, that could improve mission effectiveness of the vessel when it reaches expected service life.

d. Coordinates with the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations and other DON officials and activities' INSURV reports concerning material, performance and design deficiencies identified during trials or as a result of other inspection and recommends appropriate action.

e. Reviews specifications for new vessel designs, recommending technical changes as appropriate to Navy leadership.

f. Conducts surveys, when directed by the CNO, for the purpose of determining and documenting the material condition of vessels in conjunction with their inactivation.

g. Ascertains and reports on the status of fleet occupational safety and health, as well as the status of fleet environmental protection program compliance.

h. Collaborates to standardize assessment procedures across the fleet to include collaboration with Naval Sea Systems Command on the establishment of common assessment procedures.

i. Establishes subordinate or temporary boards as necessary.

j. Participates in and monitors the effectiveness of the service craft material inspection program and provides an annual report to CNO delineating results of oversight visits.

k. Furnishes NAVINSGEN with all trials reports, inspection reports and acceptance authorization letters and summaries of data regarding recurring material deficiencies to include root cause analysis, when available, of said deficiencies. Additionally, informs NAVINSGEN of any circumstances that seriously affect the material condition of vessels presented for trials and material inspections. Briefs NAVINSGEN at least annually, on all fleet material condition issues.

l. Collaborates quarterly with Commander, Naval Sea Systems Command and other SYSCOMs as required, on the potential resolution of Navy technical issues that arise because of INSURV inspections and assessments.

m. Maintains a Naval Reserve detachment that assists with specified material inspection requirements.

3. Implied Tasks. Implied tasks are not necessarily codified in any instruction, but exist to help maintain and improve fleet readiness.

a. Supports and enables the virtuous cycle in which SYSCOMs and TYCOMs receive fleet material readiness data and use it to improve maintenance policy, design and acquisition.

b. Teaches Navy standards and requirements to the fleet.

c. Provides CNO, fleet commanders and TYCOMs with information that they can use to make resource allocations.

d. Provides fleet commanders and the CNO with independent external audit and review of the performance of the TYCOMs and SYSCOMs.

e. Manages, resources and trains INSURV to perform all required functions and tasks.

f. Conducts a proactive speaking program which brings the INSURV staff to various commands, such as Surface Warfare Officer School, A and C schools, afloat training groups, surface and submarine staffs, etc.

g. Maintains a robust external and internal Web portal which supports the flow of

information to both INSURV inspectors and support personnel as well as external entities that may require INSURV information or data.

h. Ensure the material inspection is tuned to the Commanding Officer's ability to do self-assessment in support of increased lethality and survivability.

i. Provide feedback on a capital ship's lethality and survivability in order to better inform senior leadership as to the war fighting readiness of the fleet.